

Message Text

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16

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FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

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INFO DIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

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AMCONSUL SURABAYA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

CINCPAC

CINCPACFLT

FOSIF WESTPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 15755

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PINS ID PO PT AS

SUBJ: PORTUGUESE TIMOR (PT) DEVELOPMENTS

REF: JAKARTA 15562 (DTG 190850Z DEC 75), JAKARTA 15732

(DTG 240545Z DEC 75)

SUMMARY: OFFICIAL GOI STATEMENT ON SECURITY COUNCIL TIMOR

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RESOLUTION, WHILE NOT REJECTING RESOLUTION AND EVEN

"WELCOMING" UN PARTICIPATION IN PT DECOLONIZATION, NEVERTHELESS MADE CLEAR GOI WOULD COOPERATE WITH RESOLUTION ONLY ON ITS OWN TERMS AND DISMISSED CALL FOR WITHDRAWAL OF "SO-CALLED" INDONESIAN TROOPS AS IRRELEVANT. INDONESIAN SOURCE REPORTS (PERHAPS WISHFULLY) THAT GOI ENDEAVORING SECURE COOPERATION OF FRETILIN REP AT UN RAMOS HORTA WITH PRO-INDONESIAN PARTIES. APPEAL FOR PRO-INDONESIAN "PRO-VISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF EAST TIMOR" PUBLISHED IN JAKARTA PRESS REQUESTS MILITARY, SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE FROM GOI IN RESTORING ORDER IN PT. PRESS REPORTS STRESS RETURN TO NORMAL IN PT, BUT SOME FRETILIN RESISTANCE APPARENTLY CONTINUING. GOI SOURCE REPORTS PRO-INDONESIAN FORCES HAVE OCCUPIED FORMER FRETILIN STRONGHOLD AILEU NEAR DILI, AND THAT FRETILIN RADIO WHICH WAS SOLE LINK WITH OUTSIDE WORLD HAS BEEN DESTROYED. INTEGRATION OF OE CUSSI ENCLAVE WITH INDONESIA CONTINUES APACE, WITH ENCLAVE RENAMED AN INDONESIAN KABUPATEN (COUNTY) AND LOCAL TIMORESE TROOPS GIVEN PROVISIONAL STATUS IN INDONESIAN ARMED FORCES. END SUMMARY.

1. GOI POLICY (UN): GOI ISSUED OFFICIAL STATEMENT DEC 23 REACTING TO UNSC TIMOR RESOLUTION OF DEC 22. FULL TEXT REPORTED SECOND REFTEL. WHILE STATEMENT FALLS SHORT OF REJECTING UN RESOLUTION, DESCRIBING SC RESOLUTION AS "MORE PROGRESSIVE" THAN EARLIER GA RESOLUTION, AND EVEN "WELCOMES" PROPOSED UN PARTICIPATION IN PT DECOLONIZATION PROCESS, BURDEN OF STATEMENT IS TO MAKE CLEAR THAT GOI WILL COOPERATE WITH UN ONLY ON ITS OWN TERMS. STATEMENT "REGRETS" SC RESOLUTION, WHICH IT SAYS REFLECTS CONTINUING SC IGNORANCE OF REAL SITUATION IN PT AND GOI POSITION. IT REPEATS LITANY OF PORTUGUESE MACHINATIONS AND DECEPTIONS PUT FORWARD IN PREVIOUS GOI DECLARATIONS. IT NOTES ESTABLISHMENT DEC 17 OF (PRO-INDONESIAN) "PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF EAST TIMOR," INSISTS THAT ALL EFFORTS BY OUTSIDE PARTIES TO ASSIST IN DECOLONIZATION PROCESS BE RELATED TO PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT, AND SUGGEST THAT APPROPRIATE UN ROLE WOULD BE TO REQUEST NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES TO ASSIST PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT. STATEMENT ALSO DENIES GOI AUTHORITY OVER INDONESIAN "VOLUNTEERS" IN PT AND CHARACTERIZES UNSC CALL FOR WITHDRAWAL OF "SO-CALLED" CONFIDENTIAL

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INDONESIAN TROOPS AS "IRRELEVANT".

2. STAFFER OF SUHARTO POLITICAL ADVISOR ALI PURTOPO TOLD EMBOFF DEC 23 THAT GOI DID NOT ANTICIPATE (AND BY IMPLICATION WOULD OPPOSE) VISIT BY REPRESENTATIVE OF UN SECRETARY GENERAL TO PT ANY TIME IN NEAR FUTURE. STAFFER SAID GOI WOULD ENCOURAGE CONTACT BETWEEN UN REP AND PT PARTY REPS NOW IN NEW YORK AS FIRST STEP. HE ADDED THAT PRO-

INDONESIAN PARTIES HAVE MADE CONTACT WITH FRETILIN REPRESENTATIVE RAMOS HORTA WITH VIEW TO ELICITING HIS COOPERATION IN PRESENTING UNITED FRONT TO UN REP IN SUPPORT OF PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT. STAFFER SAID THAT ARE INDICATIONS HORTA MAY BE WILLING TO COOPERATE (IMPLIED IN RETURN FOR MATERIAL REWARDS). COMMENT: WHILE HORTA GANBIT WOULD BE PLAUSIBLE GOI TACTIC, IN ABSENCE OF ANY SUBSTANTIATION OF HORTA COOPERATIVENESS AND ON BASIS HORTA STATEMENTS TO DATE INCLUDING LATEST STATEMENT FOLLOWING SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE (USUN 6949) WE WOULD TEND TO DISCOUNT STAFFER'S COMMENTS IN THIS REGARD AS LARGELY WISHFUL THINKING.

3. JAKARTA PRESS DEC 24 CARRIES TEXT OF "APPEAL" DATED DEC 18 FROM PRESIDENTS OF APODETI (ARNALDO DOS REIS DE ARAUJO) AND UDT (FRANCISCO XAVIER LOPEZ DA CRUZ) ON BEHALF OF EAST TIMOR PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT ADDRESSED TO PRESIDENT SUHARTO. APPEAL ASKS GOI TO RENDER ASSISTANCE TO THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT "IN THE MILITARY, SOCIAL AS WELL AS ECONOMIC" FIELDS IN ORDER TO RESTORE PEACE AND ORDER AND ELIMINATE "TERRORIST" REMNANTS. COMMENT: ANY GOI RESPONSE TO THIS REQUEST FOR OFFICIAL ASSISTANCE, PARTICULARLY IN MILITARY FIELD, WOULD REPRESENT DROPPING OF SEVENTH VEIL COVERING GOI INTERVENTION EXACT PURPOSE OF PUBLICATION OF STATEMENT AT THIS TIME UNCLEAR, BUT GOI MAY INTEND USE IT AS FALLBACK (AND LEVER) DEPENDING ON PROGRESS OF UN INITIATIVE.

4. BATTLEFIELD: PRESS CONTINUES SILENT ON BATTLEFIELD OPERATIONS EXCEPT FOR FURTHER (AND LARGELY REPETITIOUS) REPORTS OF FRETILIN SURRENDERS AND RETURN TO "NORMAL" OF CONDITIONS IN DILI AND OTHER PRO-INDONESIAN CONTROLLED AREAS. STATEMENT BY APODETI PRESIDENT (AND PROVISIONAL CONFIDENTIAL

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GOVERNMENT "EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN") ARAUJO DATED DEC 19 CALLING ON PT PEOPLE NOT TO BE "TRAPPED" BY FRETILIN "INSTIGATIONS" AND TO UNITE IN FIGHT AGAINST "TERRORISTS NOW ON RUN CHASED BY SECURITY FORCES ASSISTED BY BRETHREN FROM INDONESIA" SUGGESTS RESISTANCE IS CONTINUING WITH AT LEAST SOME POPULAR SUPPORT POSSIBLY COUPLED WITH SOME LOCAL RESENTMENT OF THE INDONESIAN BRETHREN.

5. ALI MURTOPO STAFFER TOLD EMBOFF THAT FRETILIN STRONGHOLD TOWN OF AILEU (APPROX. 15 MILES SOUTH OF DILI) IS NOW IN HANDS OF PRO-INDONESIAN FORCES, HAVING BEEN ABANDONED BY FRETILIN PRIOR TO CAPTURE. STAFFER ALSO SAID FRETILIN RADIO, WHICH WAS REPORTEDLY LOCATED IN AILEU, HAS BEEN SILENT SINCE DEC 16 AND IS THOUGHT TO HAVE BEEN DESTROYED. COMMENT: LOSS OF AILEU AND OF RADIO, IF TRUE, WOULD BE

MAJOR SETBACKS FOR FRETILIN, DEPRIVING THEM BOTH OF TERRITORIAL BASE AND OF VIRTUALLY ONLY MEANS OF COMMUNICATING WITH OUTSIDE WORLD (INCLUDING THEIR REPS AT UN AND ELSEWHERE).

6. OE CUSSI: PROCESS OF DE FACTO INTEGRATION OF PT ENCLAVE OE CUSSI WITH INDONESIA PROCEEDING APACE. STATE NEWS AGENCY ANTARA REPORTS THAT AT DEC 18 FLAG-RAISING CEREMONY IN PANTE MACASSAR (FIRST REFTEL), LOCAL MILITARY COMMANDER JOSE VALENTE TURNED OVER 109 MILITIA TROOPS (TROPAS) AND 141 CIVIL DEFENSE PERSONNEL TO INDONESIAN BALI/NUSATENGARA MILITARY COMMANDER BRIG. GEN. PRANTO, WHO IN TURN DESIGNATED ENTIRE GROUP AS PROVISIONAL MEMBERS INDONESIAN ARMED FORCES. ANTARA HAS ALSO REPORTED THAT OE CUSSI ADMINISTRATION HAS GIVEN DISTRICT INDONESIAN DESIGNATION AS "AMBENU" KABUPATEN (COUNTY), WITH FORMER COLONIAL CIVIL ADMINSITRATOR JAIME DE OLIVEIRA APPOINTED AS BUPATI (ADMINISTRATOR). COMENT: RAPID PACE OF INTEGRATION MOVES IN OE CUSSI SUGGESTS THAT, REGARDLESS OF LEGAL NICETIES GOVERNING FORMAL TRANSFER OF SOVEREIGNTY, GOI IS DEVELOPING OE CUSSI AS MODE OF SUCCESSFUL INTEGRATION OF PT WITH INDONESIA POSSIBLY FOR USE WITH EVENTUAL

UN DELEGATIONS AND OTHER OBSERVERS. CLEAR DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PATTERN BEING FOLLOWED IN OE CUSSI AND THAT IN MAIN PT TERRITORY, PLUS TOTAL LACK OF REFERENCE TO "EAST TIMOR PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT" IN OE CUSSI PUBLICITY ALSO CONFIDENTIAL

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SUGGEST INDONESIANS HAVE IN MIND INTEGRATION OF ENCLAVE WITH SURROUNDING INDONESIAN PROVINCE RATHER THAN ANY FUTURE PT PROVINCE, THUS ENDING GEOGRAPHIC ANOMALIES ASSOCIATED WITH PORTUGUESE COLONY.
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